

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

For Period Ending 3-30-86

Run 1700 3/31/86



Issue: 04-86

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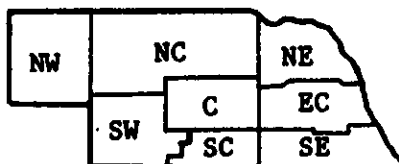
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## WEATHER

The week was very warm and dry. Average temperatures ranged from 13 degrees above normal in the west to 22 degrees above normal in the east. Only a few traces of precipitation were reported across the State.

## GENERAL

Temperatures during March were warmer than usual averaging over nine degrees above normal. Precipitation was very light in the first half of the month, but widespread rainfall during mid-month improved soil moisture conditions across the State. As the month progressed, producers began plowing, discing, fertilizing, and preparing machinery for the planting season. Seeding of small grains was getting underway toward the end of March. Other activities included attending farm sales, mending fence, analyzing the farm program, testing soil, and general chores.

## WINTER WHEAT

Winter wheat condition rated 25% fair, 48% good, and 27% excellent, showing a definite improvement from last month. A few reports of winter kill were tallied last week in several counties across southern Nebraska. However, the extent of winter kill still appears to be very light at this time. The first reports of soil borne mosaic and pennycress came from the southeastern district last week.

## LIVESTOCK

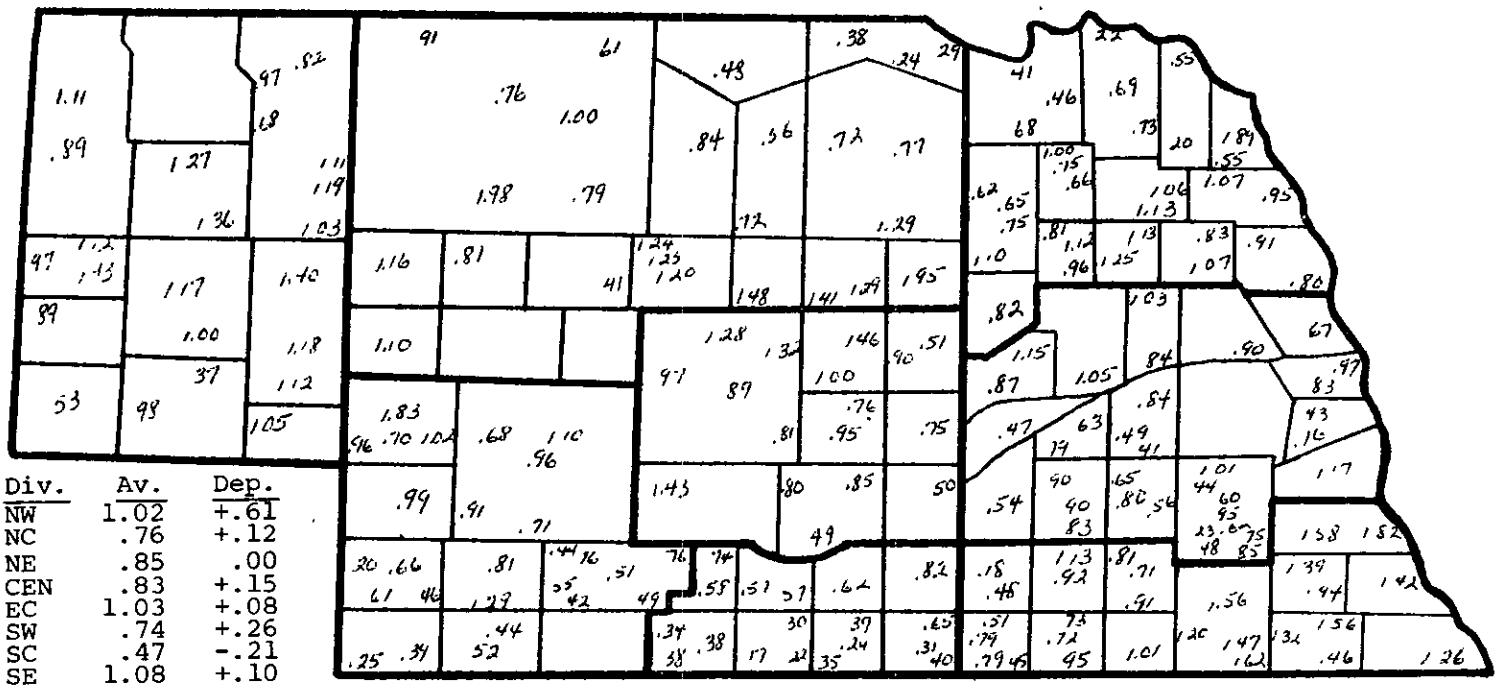
Mild conditions through March allowed cattle to remain on stalks. During the month, feed and hay supplies stabilized in western areas where supplies were short all winter. Across the remainder of the State, feed grain and hay supplies continued to rate average or above. Pasture and range development rated average, but warmer temperatures and timely rains should spur early growth. The calving season progressed well with losses running average or below. There were a few reports of additional calf losses during the mid-March snow storm.

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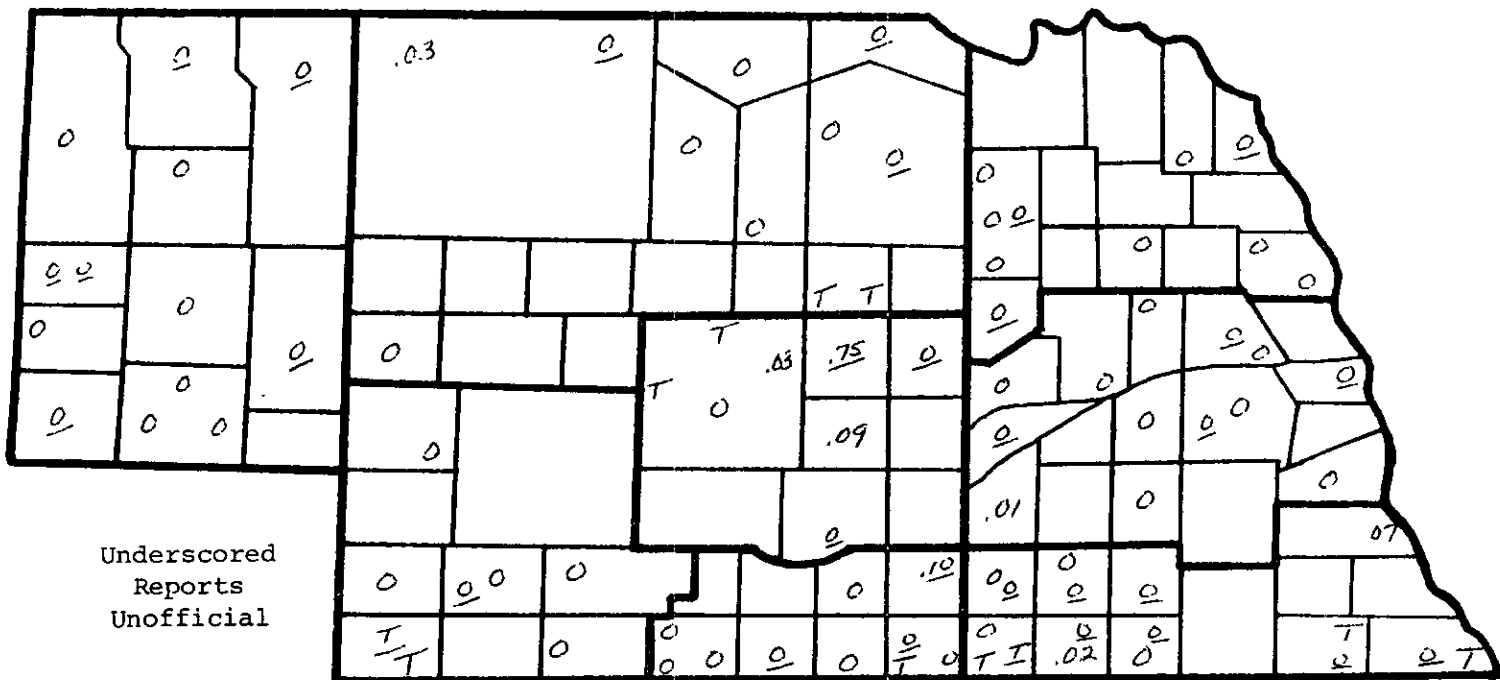
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# PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1986 1/



1/ Courtesy of the Center for Agricultural Meteorology and Climatology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

## PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1986



## TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1986

Station		Temperature			Precipitation	
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1</u> /
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	82	28	54	--	0
	Scottsbluff	81	24	52	+13	0
	Sidney	80	21	52	--	T
NC	Ord	89	28	56	--	0
	Valentine	83	26	54	+17	0
NE	Norfolk	88	33	57	+19	T
	Sioux City	89	32	57	+18	0
CEN	Grand Island	90	33	60	+20	0
EC	Lincoln	89	34	61	+20	T
	Omaha	88	35	62	+22	0
SW	Imperial	82	28	55	--	0
	North Platte	86	26	54	+15	T

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.